REMARKS

The Specification, claims 1, 4-7, 9-12, and 14-17, and the Abstract have all been amended to correct for typographical and grammatical errors only. As such, the proposed amendments are merely formal in nature, do not introduce new matter, and do not affect the scope of the claims. Therefore, the proposed amendments are permissible under 37 C.F.R. 1.312. Accordingly, approval and entry of these amendments are respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner be of the opinion that further clarification is necessary, or that outstanding issues exist, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

Customer No. 24978

November 7, 2003

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